MONTANA

1988 BLACK BEAR HUNTING REGULATIONS

General Regulations

These regulations apply to all legally described Black Bear Hunting Districts.

Licenses — The following licenses are available at all Fish, Wildlife and Parks Offices and most license agents throughout the state.

Conservation License (Prerequisite)	$ 2.00
Resident Black Bear License	$ 8.00
Nonresident Black Bear License	$120.00

A black bear license is included in the resident Sportsman's License and nonresident Big Game Combination License.

Game Limit — Sportsmen may harvest one black bear per license year. Female bears with young and individual cubs may not be harvested.

Tagging — Immediately after harvesting a black bear, sportsmen must cut out the proper month and the day of the harvest from the appropriate license/tag and attach to the animal in a secure and visable manner. If more than one date is cut out, the license is invalid. The properly validated license shall remain with the meat until consumed (including cold storage). If the meat is not retained, the validated license shall remain with the hide.

Sportsmen harvesting a black bear must leave evidence of sex naturally intact on the hide, and if required by the Department, must physically go back to the kill site for inspection.

Mandatory Reporting Requirements — Within 10 days of harvesting a black bear, arrangements must be made with a department official for removal of a premolar tooth which will be used to determine the bear's age. See exception listed under the 500 series districts.

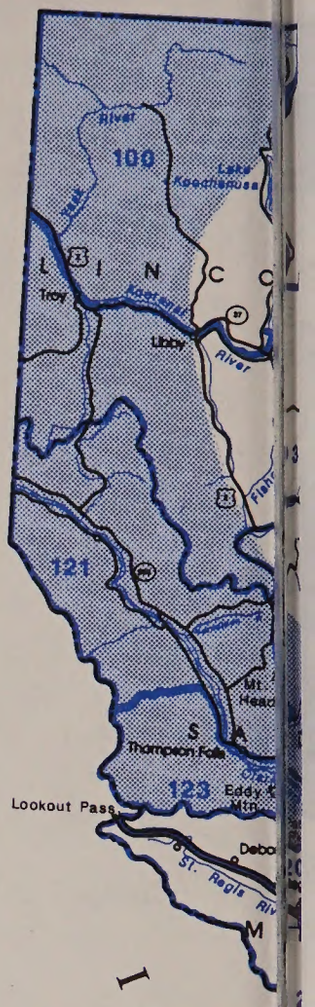
Required Clothing Color — Any person hunting or accompanying a sportsman as an outfitter or guide must wear a minimum of 400 square inches of hunter orange (fluorescent) material above the waist, visible at all times.

Attention Archers: Archers must wear a minimum of 400 square inches of hunter orange while hunting in any hunting district where firearms are also permitted to be used. The hunter orange requirement is not in effect during the special archery seasons, which are specifically listed in these regulations as: ARCHERY ONLY.

Hunting Hours — Hunting hours begin one-half hour before sunrise and end one-half hour after sunset. See official sunrise-sunset table in the 1988 Big Game Hunting Regulations.

Baiting — It is illegal to bait bears or to hunt bears with dogs.

Landowner Permission — Sportsmen pursuing black bear must secure permission from the landowner, lessee or their agent before hunting on private property, even if the land is not posted.



CLOSED TO ALL BEAR HUNTING

GENERAL RANGE OF GRIZZLIES IN MONTANA

BEAR HUNTERS — Know Your Target!

Look for a combination of characteristics

Color and size are misleading

BLACK BEAR

Straight face profile

No hump

Shorter, darker claws

GRIZZLY BEAR

Hump

Dished face profile

Ruff of long hair in Spring and Fall

Long, lighter claws

Black Bear — General Season

- All black bear licenses are valid for the specified districts, seasons and sex as listed below.
- The following areas are closed to black bear hunting:
  1) All State Game Preserves
  2) All hunting districts beginning with the number 6 and 7
  3) Gallatin Closed Area (boundary description on page 8 of the Legal Descriptions)
  4) Deckard Flats portion of hunting district 313 closed as posted.
  5) Hunting privileges on Indian Reservations are limited to tribal members only.

There are no bear harvest quotas/female sub-quotas in all 100-400 series black bear hunting districts.

100 SERIES DISTRICTS

	Apr. 15 - May 31	Either Sex	
	Sept. 3 - Nov. 27	Either Sex	
Exceptions by hunting district			
100, 101, 103	Apr. 15 - May 15	Either Sex	
121, 122 & 123	Sept. 3 - Nov. 27	Either Sex	

200 SERIES DISTRICTS

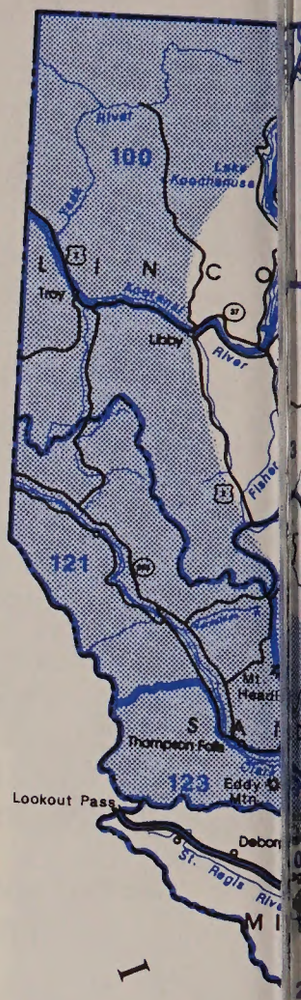
	Apr. 15 - May 31	Either Sex	
	Sept. 3 - Nov. 27	Either Sex	
Exceptions by hunting district			
204	May 15 - May 31	Either Sex	Threemile Wildlife
	Sept. 3 - Nov. 27	Either Sex	Management Area Only (portion of HD 204)
261	May 15 - May 31	Either Sex	Calf Creek Wildlife
	Sept. 3 - Nov. 27	Either Sex	Management Area Only (portion of HD 261)
282	May 15 - May 31	Either Sex	Blackfoot-Clearwater Wildlife
	Sept. 3 - Nov. 13	Either Sex	Management Area Only
284	Apr. 15 - May 31	Either Sex	Open to black bear
	Sept. 3 - Nov. 27	Either Sex	hunting by ARCHERY ONLY
293	May 15 - May 31	Either Sex	Nevada Lake Wildlife
	Sept. 3 - Nov. 27	Either Sex	Management Area Only (portion of HD 293)

300 SERIES DISTRICTS

	Apr. 15 - June 15	Either Sex	
	Oct. 23 - Nov. 27	Either Sex	
Exceptions by hunting district			
Gallatin Closed Area - Closed to all hunting of black bear.			
313	Deckard Flats portion of hunting district 313 closed as posted.		
316	Apr. 15 - June 15	Either Sex	
	Sept. 15 - Nov. 27	Either Sex	

400 SERIES DISTRICTS

	Apr. 15 - Nov. 27	Either Sex	
Exceptions by hunting district			
420	May 15 - Nov. 27	Either Sex	Judith River Wildlife Management Area Only (portion of HD 420)
422	Apr. 15 - May 31	Either Sex	
	Sept. 3 - Nov. 27	Either Sex	
424	Apr. 15 - May 31	Either Sex	
	Sept. 3 - Nov. 27	Either Sex	
425	Apr. 15 - May 31	Either Sex	
	Sept. 3 - Nov. 27	Either Sex	
425	May 15 - May 31	Either Sex	Sun River Wildlife
	Sept. 3 - Nov. 27	Either Sex	Management Area Only (portion of HD 425)
427	Apr. 15 - May 31	Either Sex	Closed to all bear hunting when elk
	Sept. 3 - Nov. 27	Either Sex	quota in hunting district 442 is reached or November 27, 1988, whichever occurs first.



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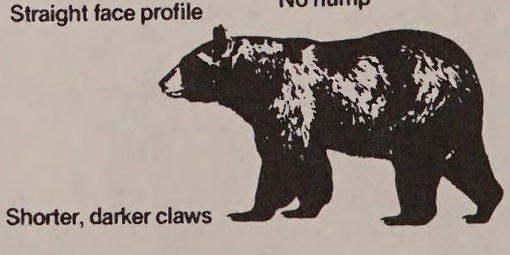
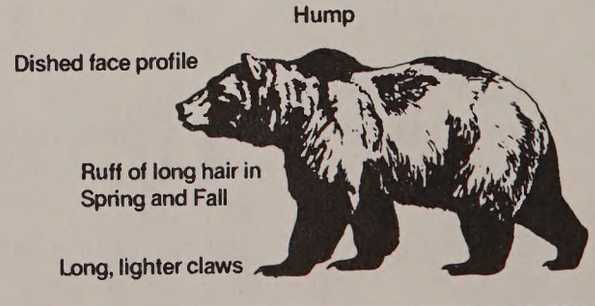


GRIZZLY BEAR



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TURN IN POACHERS

with this information

- WHAT
- WHERE
- WHEN
- WHO
- HOW

(847-6668)

1-800-TIP-MONT

General Season (Continued)

428	Apr. 15 - May 31 Sept. 3 - Nov. 27	Either Sex Either Sex	Closed to all bear hunting when elk quota in hunting district 424 is reached or November 27, 1988, which ever occurs first.
441	Apr. 15 - May 31 Sept. 3 - Nov. 27	Either Sex Either Sex	
441	May 15 - May 31 Sept. 3 - Nov. 27	Either Sex Either Sex	Blackleaf Wildlife Management Area Only (portion of HD 441)
442	Apr. 15 - May 31 Sept. 3 - Nov. 27	Either Sex Either Sex	
442	May 15 - May 31 Sept. 3 - Nov. 27	Either Sex Either Sex	Ear Mountain Wildlife Management Area Only (portion of HD 442)
455	May 15 - Nov. 27	Either Sex	Beartooth Wildlife Management Area Only (portion of HD 455)

All 500 series districts listed below shall be open to hunting black bear of either sex.

500 SERIES DISTRICTS

HUNTING DISTRICTS (OR GROUPS)	HUNTING SEASONS	BEAR HARVEST QUOTAS	
		TOTAL	FEMALE SUB-QUOTA
500, 511, 530, 540 & 590	Apr. 15 - May 31 Sept. 3 - Nov. 27	5	2
502, 520, 560 & 575	Apr. 15 - May 31 Sept. 3 - Nov. 27	25	8
510	Apr. 15 - May 31 Sept. 3 - Nov. 27	7	2
570 & 580	Apr. 15 - May 31 Sept. 3 - Nov. 27	8	2

When the quota or sub-quota is reached in the hunting district(s) or groups, the bear season for that area will close upon 48 hours notice, but no later than last date of season shown in the regulations.

Any person taking a black bear in 500 series districts must report the kill within 48 hours to an employee of the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks in Region 5, and must personally present the hide and skull within 10 days to an employee of the Department for purposes of inspection, recording of kill and removing a tooth for aging. The hide and head must be retained even though damaged.

Sportsmen may call toll-free 1-800-332-6117 during the authorized black bear hunting season to obtain current information on districts which have reached the quotas. Current harvest information may be obtained by calling the appropriate Fish, Wildlife and Parks Regional Headquarters during normal business hours.

Black Bear — ARCHERY ONLY Season

- ARCHERY ONLY season is September 3 - October 16, 1988, in all 300 series districts and hunting district 284, with the following exceptions.
  1) Hunting District 316 - No ARCHERY ONLY.
  2) Gallatin Closed Area - Closed to all hunting of black bear.
  3) Deckard Flats portion of hunting district 313 closed as posted.
- Licenses are valid for black bear of either sex.
- Female bears with young and individual cubs may not be harvested.
- An archery stamp, plus the proper hunting license is required of all hunters during ARCHERY ONLY seasons.
- During any ARCHERY ONLY season, only a longbow, recurve bow or compound bow may be used. Arrows dipped in or containing any poisonous, explosive or deleterious substances are prohibited.
- **Crossbows may not be used during ARCHERY ONLY seasons.**

Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks